

## Ballot Argument

The best future for Carlsbad requires an effective government that represents the values of the community. A charter city offers us that better future. Please vote YES on Proposition D for a better Carlsbad.

Charter cities have increased protection from intrusive state legislation, including unfunded mandates. And as part of approving Proposition D, the citizens of Carlsbad can reaffirm the city's density limits.

In February 2008, the Carlsbad City Council unanimously voted to support becoming a charter city. In approving Proposition D, Carlsbad citizens would reinforce their belief that a government based on the concept of local control and home rule is the most effective way to operate.

A charter city derives its powers from the State Constitution, not the general law. If this Proposition D is approved, Carlsbad would be able to create laws and regulations that better reflect our community and would not be subject to the powerful special interest groups at the state level.

Charter cities have increased flexibility and discretion in their decision making. This flexibility can translate into a reduction of bureaucratic red tape and improvements in the city's delivery of service. If approved, possible changes in the way the city contracts for goods and services could result in substantial savings, both in time and money. In a world where financial resources are limited, it's important to consider every opportunity to save taxpayer money.

Changing to a charter city will not cost residents more money. There are no additional taxes involved with making this change. Becoming a charter city does not increase the city's ability to raise or impose taxes in the future.

Carlsbad has a bright future. By voting for Carlsbad to become a charter city, it could be even brighter. On June 3, 2008, please VOTE YES on Proposition D.

